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CELEBRATING THE FALL OF THE WALL

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MSU SOCCER TEAM TAKES TOURNEY

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A REFUGE FOR VETERANS

OPINIONS

See for yourself

Allowing cameras in the courtroom is a public service, not a media bonus — A4

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Madonna items auctioned

LOS ANGELES — The Material Girl has still got it. Julien’s Auctions said Saturday that bidders worldwide sought items from Madonna’s professional and personal life during the two-day Icons & Idols: Rock n’ Roll auction in Beverly Hills that started Friday.

The auction house says the gown and stole from her “Material Girl” video sold for \$73,125, while the wedding dress the pop icon wore when she married Sean Penn in 1985 brought in \$81,250.

Her jacket from “Desperately Seeking Susan” sold for a record \$252,000 and one earring worn in the film fetched \$34,375.

Other highlights include the gown from the film “Evita” — which sold for \$15,000 — and her “A League of Their Own” uniform — which sold for \$31,250.

The Associated Press

LOTTERY

Sunday’s Daily 3 7-3-8

Friday’s Gopher 5 1-3-22-24-29

Saturday’s Powerball 9-19-33-38-54 and 15

Saturday’s Hot Lotto 1-6-17-24-44 and 15

Sunday’s Northstar Cash 6-14-16-20-27

Friday’s Mega Millions 31-35-41-65-66 and 05

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WEATHER, PAGE B6

Snow High 32, low 20



Mankato, Minnesota

Mankato Family YMCA program HITS ITS STRIDE



Photos by Pat Christman

STRIDE program participants go through a running drill Wednesday at Hilltop United Methodist Church. The program has 44 boys in third through fifth grade enrolled this fall and teaches them about fitness and life lessons.

The Y’s STRIDE program has 44 participants

By Nate Gotlieb ngotlieb@mankatofreepress.com

Fourth grader Darren Smith ran laps around the Hilltop United Methodist Church parking lot Wednesday afternoon, along with about a dozen other boys. Smith finished 21 laps in about 30 minutes, eclipsing his goal of 15. He and the other boys are training for a 5K through a new Mankato Family YMCA program that teaches boys about fitness and topics such as teamwork and healthy choices.

The YMCA’s STRIDE program incorporates these lessons within the framework of a fitness and running class. It meets twice a week and will culminate with participants running in the Exclusively Diamonds Dash 5K on Sunday, Dec. 7, at Sibley Park.

The program has 44 participants in three groups this fall. The Hilltop group meets Mondays and Wednesdays, and the other two meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at the YMCA. The participants range from third through fifth grade.

“It’s a great group,” said third grader Madden Vanderwerf, a participant in the Hilltop class. “There’s lots of nice people and new friends.”

At Wednesday’s class, the boys



STRIDE program coach Evan Broughton sits in a circle as program participants learn about goal setting Wednesday at Hilltop United Methodist Church. Broughton is one of four coaches in the Wednesday class, which has 14 participants.

trickled into the church around 3 p.m. and almost immediately began playing football near the parking lot. The head coach, Jeremiah Reed, called the boys into the church around 3:15 p.m.

Reed led the boys through a recap of their previous class, during which they talked about peer pressure. He then introduced Wednesday’s theme, setting goals, with a game of hangman.

After a brief lesson, the boys wrote down their lap goals on notecards

and headed outside. Reed and the three assistant coaches led them through stretches before the run.

Each time a boy finished a lap, one of his coaches marked a line on his notecard. Some boys ran the entire 30 minutes. Some ran at first but walked when they got tired. One boy tried to trick a coach into giving him an extra mark on his notecard — in good fun, of course.

Please see STRIDE, Page A6

Westminster could become the country’s first smoke-free town

Town of 7,700 holding a hearing

The Associated Press

WESTMINSTER, MASS. — The cartons of Marlboros, cans of Skoal and packs of Swisher Sweets are hard to miss stacked near the entrance of Vincent’s Country Store, but maybe

not for much longer: All tobacco products could become contraband if local health officials get their way.

This sleepy central Massachusetts town of 7,700 has become an improbable battleground in America’s tobacco wars. On Wednesday, the Board of Health will hear public comment on a proposed regulation that could make Westminster the first municipality in the United States to ban sales of

all tobacco products within town lines.

“To my knowledge, it would be the first in the nation to enact a total ban,” said Thomas Carr, director of national policy at the American Lung Association. “We commend the town for doing it.”

Town health agent Elizabeth Swedberg said a ban seemed like a sensible solution to a vexing problem.

Please see SMOKE, Page A6



The Associated Press

Brian Vincent poses in front of a large display of tobacco products at Vincent’s Country Store in Westminster, Mass. Local officials are contemplating what could be a first: a blanket ban on all forms of tobacco and e-cigarettes, leaving some shop owners fuming.



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